

PARTIAL TRANSCRIPTION - ORIGINAL FOLLOWS

3. DURING A CONVERSATION AT A SOCIAL OCCASION AUGUST 15, SOVIET DIPLOMAT ALEXANDER V. MOROZOV TOLD EMBASSY POLITICAL OFFICER THAT "ABOUT TEN" SOVIET CITIZENS HAD BEEN KILLED IN AFGHANISTAN SINCE THE APRIL 1978 REVOLUTION. REGARDING POSSIBLE FUTURE SOVIET ACTIONS TOWARD AFGHANISTAN, MOROZOV [2 LINES ILLEG]

IN AF-
GHANISTAN." MOROZOV BLAMED HOSTILE [ILLEG] POLICY TOWARD THE DRA, ESPECIALLY THE CUTTING OFF OF ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, FOR CREATING "ANY OF THE DOMESTIC [2 WORDS ILLEG] FACING THE [ILLEG] REGIME. HE INSISTED THAT "[2 WORDS ILLEG] OPPOSITION" COULD BE HOSTILE TO THE SOVIET UNION, [ILLEG] MOSCOW HAD FOR YEARS, AT AFGHAN REQUEST, HE STRESSED, [ILLEG] ALL KINDS OF ASSISTANCE TO VARIOUS AFGHAN GOVERNMENTS, AND MOSCOW IS NOW MERELY CONTINUING PAST POLICIES. MOROZOV CONCLUDED THAT THE PRESENT OPPOSITION TO THE REGIME IS "COMPLETELY IRRESPONSIBLE" AND DOOMED TO FAILURE SINCE IT IS BASED SO FIRMLY ON AN UNJUSTIFIABLY ANTI-SOVIET PRINCIPLE.

PP RUOMHR
DE RUOMHR /OCS 231620
ZNY OOOOO ZKX
P R 191114Z AUG 79
FM AMEMBASSY KABUL
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5272
INFO RUOMGU/AMEMBASSY ANKARA 309
RUHJPG/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 686
RUSECO/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD 9185
RUOTC/AMEMBASSY LONDON 1756
RUEKMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 1834
RUSBAE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI 7255
RUOMHR/AMEMBASSY TEHRAN 407
RUHQHJAS/CINCPAC
RUSNAAA/CINCEUR
RUFHQA/USMISSION US NATO 38
57
C O N F I D E N T I A L KABUL 6209

POL

CHG

EECH

RF

СЕРИЯ:

CINCPAC AND CINCEUR ALSO FOR POLAD

5.C. HIGGS: GDS 8-16-85 (TAYLOR, JAMES L.) OF-P
TACS: PEPR, PINS, FINY, AF, UR
SUBJECT: CLOW SOVIET OFFICIAL FAIRLY CLOSE CONFIDENCE THAT "YOU"
WILL PROTECT ITS CITIZENS HERE

1. (C - ENTIRE TEXT.)

2. SUMMARY: ACCORDING TO A SOVIET EMERGENCY OFFICER, "ASOIT-
TEN" SOVIETS HAVE BEEN KILLED IN POST-REVOLUTION VIOLENCE
IN AFGHANISTAN. THE SOVIET DIPLOMAT EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE
THAT MOSCOW WILL DO "EVERYTHING NECESSARY" TO PROTECT ITS
REPRESENTATIVES HERE. THE SOVIET DISPLAYED TESTINESS
WHICH COULD REFLECT GROWING PRESSURES ON SOVIETS SERVING
IN THIS COUNTRY, AS THE ANTI-SOVIET INSURGENTS APPEAR TO
BE BRINGING THEIR ACT EVEN CLOSER TO KABUL. END OF SUMMARY.

3. DURING A CONVERSATION AT A SOCIAL OCCASION AUGUST 15, SOVIET DIPLOMAT ALEXANDER V. MOROZOV TOLD EMBASSY POLITICAL OFFICER THAT "ABOUT TEN" SOVIET CITIZENS WERE BEING KILLED IN AFGHANISTAN SINCE THE APRIL 1978 REVOLUTION. FURTHERING POSSIBLE FUTURE SOVIET ACTION TOWARD AFGHANISTAN, MOROZOV

[illegible]

4. COMMENT: MOROZOV, GENERALLY ONE OF THE MORE AMIALE SOVIETS HERE, WAS MARKEDLY MORE TESTY DURING THIS CONVERSATION THAN HE HAS EVER BEEN BEFORE. HE RELIED TO A GREAT EXTENT OF STANDARD CANT TO DESCRIBE THE SITUATION HERE, BUT HE SEEMED CLEARLY CONVINCED THAT AMERICAN POLICIES HAD DELIBERATELY CREATED A SITUATION WHICH IS PRECARIOUS FOR SOVIET POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC INTERESTS, AND DANGEROUS FOR SOVIET REPRESENTATIVES IN THIS COUNTRY. MOROZOV'S TESTINESS MAY HAVE BEEN ATTRIBUTABLE TO THE HEAVY PRESSURES ON HIM AND HIS COLLEAGUES.

5. MOROZOV'S COMMENT REGARDING THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT'S COMMITMENT TO THE SECURITY OF SOVIETS IN AFGHANISTAN WAS MADE IN THE CONTEXT OF POSSIBLE DIRECT MILITARY INTERVENTION, AND HE SEEMED CERTAIN THAT THE SOVIET LEADERSHIP WOULD SEND TROOPS TO KABUL IF IT BECOMES NECESSARY TO PROTECT THE NUMEROUS "ADVISERS" AND OTHER OFFICIALS HERE. WE DO NOT KNOW, OF COURSE, WHETHER MOROZOV WAS BUCKING UP HIS OWN SPIRITS BY SAYING THIS, OR WHETHER HE MAY ACTUALLY BE PRIVY TO SOME KIND OF SOVIET CONTINGENCY PLANNING. IN THIS REGARD, IT MAY BE WORTH NOTING THAT, AT TIMES OF VIOLENCE IN KABUL (E.G., JUNE 23 AND AUGUST 5), THE SOVIET EMBASSY COMPOUND, AS WELL AS THE RESIDENTIAL AREA HOUSING MANY SOVIET FAMILIES, ARE IMMEDIATELY CORDONED OFF BY AFGHAN ARMY FORCES, INCLUDING TANKS AND OTHER HEAVY EQUIPMENT, A MOVE WHICH STRONGLY SUGGESTS THE REGIME IS AWARE OF THE POTENTIAL THREAT TO SOVIET CITIZENS POSED BY THE INSURGENTS.

6. FINALLY, TO OUR KNOWLEDGE, MOROZOV'S FIGURE OF "ABOUT TEN" IS THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF FATALITIES THAT ANY SOVIET OFFICIAL HAS YET USED WITH AN AMERICAN OFFICIAL. WE BELIEVE THE ACTUAL CASUALTY FIGURE IS PROBABLY CONSIDERABLY HIGHER.

AMSTUTZ

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